**MYP5 Humanities**

Humanities aims to inspire global awareness and interest in both the natural and manufactured world. It focuses on the sociological, economical and physical aspects of country development and human demographics.

Humanities encourages students to gain and develop knowledge, conceptual understanding, research skills, analytical and interpretive skills, and communication skills, contributing to the development of the student as a whole. Humanities aims to encourage students to respect and understand the world around them, and to provide skills based to facilitate further study. This is achieved through the study of individuals, societies and environments in a wide context: historical, contemporary, geographical, political, social, economic, religious, technological and cultural.

The five key concepts of MYP Humanities include: Time, Place & Space, Systems, Global Awareness and Change. Using an inquiry based approach to learning students will investigate issues and topics they are interested in. Questions are encouraged and treated seriously; students will learn that Humanities allows us to inquire about all aspects of our world. A focus of this course will be on the origins of humanity and world geography. Where possible, content in this course will be connected to other courses to allow a more holistic approach to learning.

**Course Topics**

**Human Rights and Social Justice**

exploration off how individuals, groups and institutions work to promote social justice and human rights

analysis of how the environment can prompt human rights violations – scarcity expectations

**Our World: Then and Now**

investigation of how cultures adapt and change

examination of the forces that shape the world and the causes and consequences of past events

the processes and results of change – natural and artificial, intentional and unintentional.

**Landforms and Physical Geography**

investigation of physical geography and the processes that shaped our earth

analysis of formations and the study of physical progression and hindrance over time

**Economics and Scarcity**

comprehension of different sectors of the economy

the study of supply and demand curves

analysis of how, as a result of scarcity, Governments, Producers and Consumers make choices that affect society

**The Earth and How Far We Will Push It**

investigation of environmental issues facing the world today

analysis of future enhancement and destruction of the earth

examination of statistics and future predictions that will affect how we live

**Teaching**

World Studies is taught six forty-five minute periods per week. Students are taught and use the inquiry approach to learning. Units are student-centred, focusing on their responses and interest in the central question. Students' questions are therefore not only encouraged, but the key to all learning. Students will question, “why?” and “how?” in addition to learning where and when. As students investigate issues they are interested in, their individual needs as learners will be met through a differentiated approach. Individual, small-group and class work is fundamental to the study of World Studies. As we study and learn about people in the world, so too do we learn about those in our class and ourselves. Technology will be incorporated in lessons when available and beneficial. Central to the idea of World Studies is discussion and awareness of the world around you. Students will be engaged daily in investigating issues through various means. They will need to think critically and apply their knowledge to create connections and understandings.